

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-10

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9302

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4839

US MISSION GENEVA 2203

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

UNCLAS USNATO 6915

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TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING DECEMBER 11, 1974: FAREWELL

TO SACEUR, GEN. GOODPASTER

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

1. AT CLOSE OF DECEMBER 11 MORNING SESSION OF DPC MINISTERIAL, SYG LUNS REMINDED MININISTERS THAT CURRENT DPC MINISTERIAL IS LAST ONE SACEUR, GEN. GOODPASTER WILL ATTEND. HE SAID MINISTERS WOULD NOT WANT THIS OCCASION TO PASS WITHOUT THE SYG EXPRESSING ON THEIR BEHALF A WORD OF TRIBUTE AND THANKS.

2. AFTER BRIEFLY REVIEWING GEN. GOODPASTER'S OUTSTANDING MIL-
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ITARY RECORD, LUNS SAID ON BASIS OF THIS RECORD NATO HAD EXPECTED MUCH AND HAD NOT BEEN DISAPPOINTED. HE ADDED IT IS NOT A COINCIDENCE THAT THE GENERAL WAS BORN IN GRANITE, ILLINOIS, FOR PERHAPS HIS GREATEST QUALITY IS STRENGTH. SACEUR

MUST EXPECT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STORMS; GEN. GOODPASTER HAS HAD HIS FULL SHARE OF THESE. HIS ADVICE TO DPC HAS BEEN CONSTANT, WISE AND FIRM AND THROUGHOUT HIS TENURE THE COUNTRIES HAVE LEARNED THAT DEFENSE OF EUROPE COULD REST IN NO BETTER HANDS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE ALLIANCE LOOKS TO ITS MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS (MNCS) FOR UNBIASED MILITARY ADVICE; IMPORTANCE OF THIS CANNOT BE OVER-EMPHASIZED. FROM GEN. GOODPASTER NATO RECEIVED SUCH OBJECTIVE ADVICE WHICH WAS GIVEN WITH HONESTY AND SINCERITY -- THE CHARACTERISTICS OF GOODPASTER THE MAN.

3. LUNS HOPED THAT RATHER THAN SAYING GOODBYE, WE ARE SAYING "AU REVOIR." A MAN LIKE GENERAL GOODPASTER IS TOO VALUABLE TO LOSE; IN OR OUT OF UNIFORM HE WILL FURTHER BENEFIT HIS COUNTRY AND THE ALLIANCE. LUNS OFFERED A SPECIAL WORD FOR MRS. GOODPASTER A PERFECT HOSTESS; SHAPE LOSES ITS "FIRST LADY." HE ASKED GEN. GOODPASTER TO CONVEY TO MRS. GOODPASTER REGARDS AND COMPLIMENTS. IN CLOSING, LUNS AGAIN EXPRESSED NATO'S WARMENTS THANKS AND ADMIRATION FOR ALL THE GENERAL DID FOR THE ALLIANCE AND FOR THE OUTSTANDING WAY IN WHICH GOODPASTER DISCHARGED HIS DUTY AS SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER EUROPE.

4. IN RESPONSE, GEN. GOODPASTER THANKED SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS FOR HIS KIND AND GENEROUS WORDS, WHICH HE WOULD LONG REMEBER. GEN. GOODPASTER THEN DESCRIBED NATO'S INTEGRATED COMMANDS WHERE VARIOUS NATIONAL FORCES ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER, AS A CENTRAL ELEMENT OF NATO'S STRENGTH. HE RECALLED THAT HE HAD HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING CLOSELY WITH GENERAL EISENHOWER IN SETTING UP NATO'S FIRST INTEGRATED COMMAND AND HAD PLAYED A ROLE IN DECIDING ITS FORM AND CONTENT. HE ADDED INTEGRATED COMMANDS GIVE REALITY TO THE COMMITMENT IN THE NATO TREATY THAT AN ATTACK AGAINST ONE IS AN ATTACK AGAINST ALL AND REQUIRES A COLLECTIVE REACTION. INTEGRATED COMMANDS ALSO PROVIDE AN INSTRUMENT TO EXECUTE THE POLICIES OF THE HIGHER ALLIANCE AUTHORITIES. IN SHORT, INTEGRATED COMMANDS REPRESENT ONE OF NATO'S GREATEST SUCCESSES. THEY REQUIRE WILLING-
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NESS TO ENTRUST NATIONAL FORCES TO A COMMANDER FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY.

5. GOODPASTER SAID IT HAD BEEN A PRIVILEGE TO SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PEACE AND SECURITY FOR EACH NATION'S PEOPLE. ANY MILITARY MAN WOULD BE DEEPLY HONORED TO HOLD THE APPOINTMENT OF SACEUR, GRATEFUL FOR THE TRUST ACCORDED HIM, AND FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE; "IN MY OWN CASE, THIS IS CERTAINLY TRUE." HE THEN REFERRED TO LUNS' REMARKD ABOUT GIVING ADVISE AND STRESSED HE HAD TRIED TO GIVE ADVICE ON BASIS OF CAREFUL ANALYSIS BY HIS INTERNATIONAL STAFF WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR. HE ADDED IT HAS BEEN A PERSONAL REWARD TO SERVE FOR THE PAST FIVE AND ONE-HALF YEARS THIS GREAT ALLIANCE AND ITS NOBLE

OBJECTIVES. HE WAS DEEPLY GRATEFUL THAT DURING THIS PERIOD NATO HAD MAINTAINED PEACE, SECURITY AND TRANQUILITY FOR ITS PEOPLES.

6. GEN. GOODPASTER SAID HE WAS DEEPLY TOUCHED BY LUNS' KIND WORDS ABOUT HIS WIFE, WHICH HE WILL CONVEY TO HER. HE SAID LUNS CHOSE THE RIGHT TERM BECAUSE HE IS NOT GOING TO SAY GOODBYE IN THE NORMAL SENSE; INSTEAD, HE SAID "AUF WIDERSEHEN" AND "AU REVOIR." GEN. GOODPASTER THEN EXTENDED HIS BEST WISHES TO MINISTERS AND TO NATO AS A WHOLE, FOR SPLENDID AND IMPORTANT WORK TOWARD PEACE AND SECURITY. IN CLOSING, HE AGAIN EXPRESSED HIS DEEP THANKS TO ALL.
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US MISSION GENEVA
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